

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-6 and 8-22 remain in the application. Claims 1-6 and 8-22 are subject. Claims 1, 8, 9 and 20 have been amended. Claim 7 has been canceled to facilitate prosecution of the instant application.

Under the heading "Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102" on pages 2-4 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 1-6 and 11-19 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by International Patent Disclosure WO 00/73831 A1 to Plickert et al. (hereinafter Plickert) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

In view of the Examiner's statement that claims 7-10 and 20-22 are allowable, the now described changes have been made to the claims.

The features of claim 7 have been incorporated into claim 1.

Claim 7 has been canceled.

Claim 9 has been put in independent form without the features of claim 6 as the features of claim 9 are believed to contain patentable subject matter independent of claim 6.

Claims 8 and 20 have been amended to be compatible with the above-identified changes.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1 and 9. Claims 1 and 9 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-6 and 8-22 are solicited.

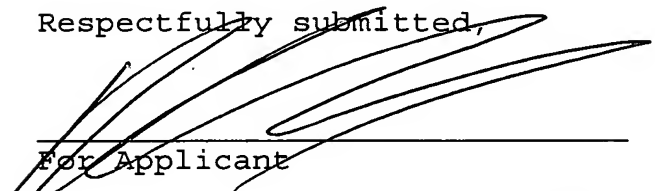
Petition for extension is herewith made. The extension fee for response within a period of one month pursuant to Section 1.136(a) in the amount of \$120.00 in accordance with Section 1.17 is enclosed herewith.

If an extension of time is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Any extension fee associated therewith should be charged to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Appl. No. 10/632,759
Amdt. Dated December 9, 2004
Reply to Office Action of August 9, 2004

Please charge any other fees that might be due with respect
to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner
and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicant

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REL:cgm

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